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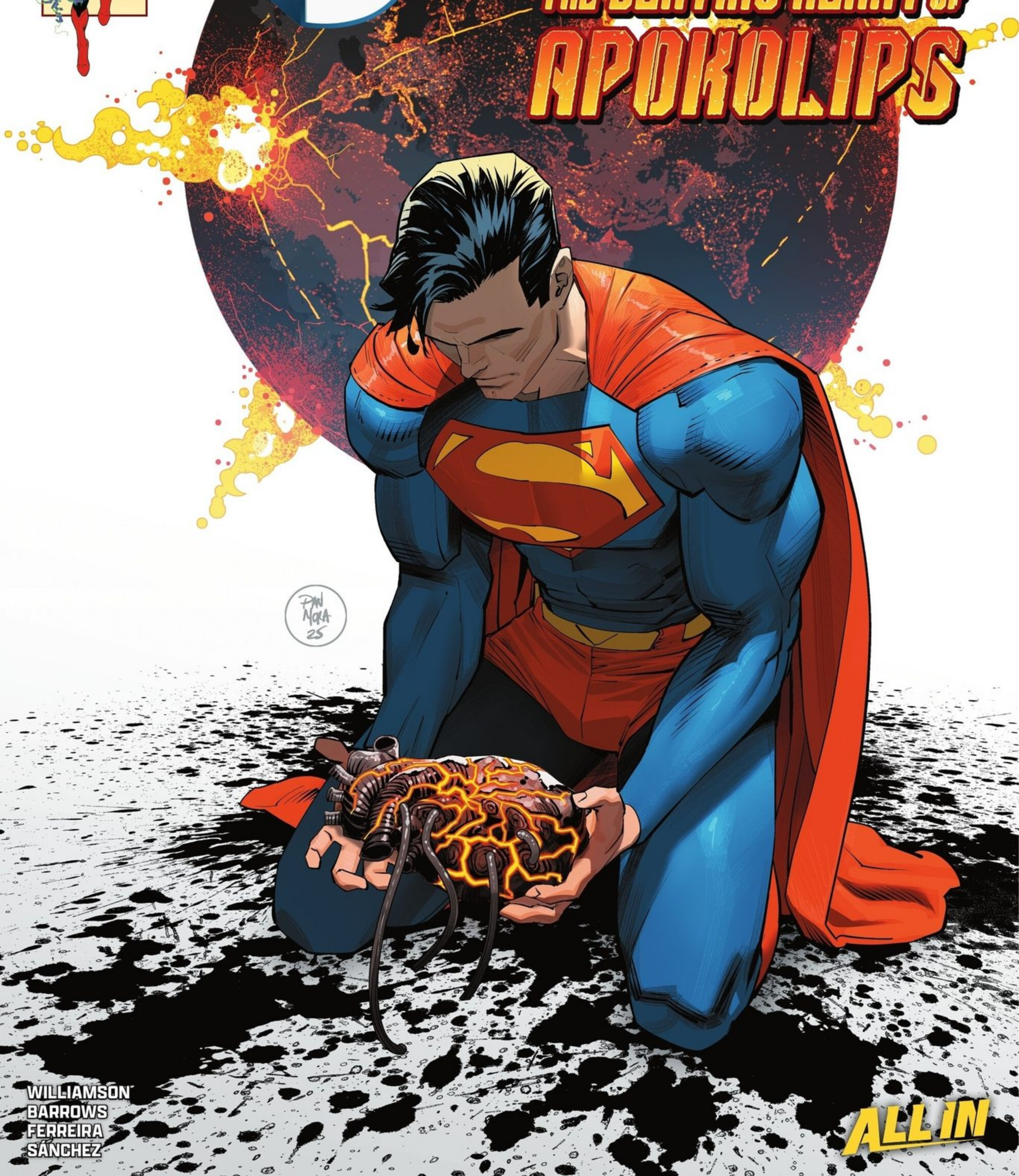
• LEGACY 874 •

DC K0 TIE-IN

SUPERMAN™

THE BEATING HEART OF APOKOLIPS



WILLIAMSON
BARROWS
FERREIRA
SÁNCHEZ

ALL IN

DC ALL IN

ABSOLUTE BATMAN 2025 ANNUAL

STEP INTO THE ORIGINS OF *ABSOLUTE BATMAN* OCTOBER

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Cover Art by DANIEL WARREN JOHNSON

THREE VISIONARY CREATORS. ONE ABSOLUTE RECKONING.

Written and Drawn by
DANIEL WARREN JOHNSON, JAMES HARREN, and MEREDITH McCLAREN

WHY SHOULD I *TRUST YOU?*

I LED YOU TO *BOOSTER GOLD.* I SAVED YOU FROM *DARKSEID'S LEGION.*

ISN'T THAT ENOUGH, SUPERMAN?

YOU'RE NOT TELLING US SOMETHING, TIME TRAPPER.

I HAVE SHOWN YOU WHAT IS COMING. THAT DARKSEID WILL WIN. THAT THE FUTURE IS ALREADY LOST.

THAT FOR YOU TO DEFEAT DARKSEID AND HIS ARMIES YOU MUST VENTURE TO THE HEART OF APOKOLIPS AND CROWN A *KING OMEGA.*

THE JUSTICE LEAGUE WATCHTOWER.

WE WANT TO BELIEVE YOU...WE WANT TO BELIEVE BOOSTER... BUT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT JEOPARDIZING EVERY LIFE ON PLANET EARTH. WE NEED MORE...

I NEED MORE.

YOU AND I HAVE HISTORY, *KAL-EL.*

WE ARE CONNECTED. OUR ORIGINS. OUR DEATHS.

TRUST IS IRRELEVANT...YOU'VE ***SEEN*** THE TRUTH FOR YOURSELF. DARKSEID ***IS*** COMING.

THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN SAVE YOUR WORLD IS TO SHOW...

"...NO MERCY!"

THE K.O. TOURNAMENT.

MAN OF APOKOLIPS

PART ONE

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Superman created by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster. Supergirl based on the characters created by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster. Superboy created by Jerry Siegel. By special arrangement with the Jerry Siegel family.

BEFORE THE FIGHT...
AT THE FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE...

YOU HAVE RETURNED, SUPERMAN.

THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE FORTRESS FOLLOWING AMANDA WALLER'S ATTACK HAS BEEN PROGRESSING SMOOTHLY.*

*AS SEEN IN LAST YEAR'S EPIC EVENT *ABSOLUTE POWER!* --PK

SORRY IT'S BEEN SOME TIME, **KELEX.**

I'VE BEEN SO BUSY I HAVEN'T MADE THE TIME TO CHECK ON YOUR PROGRESS AND HELP WITH THE...**HEAVY LIFTING.**

I HOPE THIS STILL WORKS...

TZZZ-BEEP

MY SON.

FATHER, I DON'T HAVE A LOT OF TIME...

...BUT I HAVE QUESTIONS.

ABOUT KRYPTON.

THAT IS WHY THIS SIMULATION WAS PROVIDED. WHY I PLACED OUR WORLD'S FILES IN YOUR ROCKET.

WHAT DO THOSE FILES HAVE ON DARKSEID?

THERE IS NO KNOWLEDGE OF DARKSEID IN OUR RECORDS.

HOW ABOUT A KING OMEGA?

THERE IS NO KNOWLEDGE OF KING OMEGA IN OUR RECORDS.

IS IT POSSIBLE THAT NOT ALL OF KRYPTONIAN HISTORY WAS WITHIN THE ROCKET?

SOME INFORMATION WAS DEEMED ILLEGAL.

AND THERE ARE PIECES OF HISTORY THAT WERE NEVER TRANSCRIBED. MEMORIES THAT WERE PASSED DOWN FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION...ANCESTRAL KNOWLEDGE. LIFE STORIES THAT DID NOT NEED TO BE FILED.

BUT THAT WAS ALL LOST WHEN KRYPTON WAS DESTROYED.

I KNOW... YOU'RE NOT REALLY ***YOU.*** YOU'RE JUST A SIMULATION THE ROCKET PROVIDED TO GIVE ME HISTORY...AND COMFORT. SO I'LL UNDERSTAND IF YOU CAN'T REALLY ANSWER THIS QUESTION, BUT...

FATHER... WHY DID YOU ONLY SAVE ***ME?***

BECAUSE YOUR MOTHER AND I LOVE YOU AND ***WISHED*** TO SAVE YOU.

WHAT ABOUT A LARGER SHUTTLE?

SPACE TRAVEL HAD BEEN ***ILLEGAL*** ON KRYPTON FOR GENERATIONS. KNOWLEDGE FROM OUTSIDE OUR WORLD WAS FORBIDDEN.

BECAUSE OF THIS I WAS FORCED TO BUILD YOUR ROCKET WITH LIMITED RESOURCES AND IN SECRET.

BUT WHAT IF YOU HAD ***UNLIMITED*** RESOURCES?

I HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF THAT.

FATHER...IF YOU COULD HAVE THE HELP AND RESOURCES AND THE ABILITY TO BUILD MORE SHUTTLES, WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?

I WOULD HAVE SAVED EVERYONE.

EVERYONE...

THANK YOU, FATHER.

LEXCORP. FORMERLY SUPERCORP.

YOU'RE LUCKY YOUR ***PARASITE POWERS*** ABSORBED SOME OF DOOMSDAY'S ENERGY BEFORE HE RIPPED YOU IN HALF, ***RUDY.*** IT SAVED YOUR LIFE.

IT TOOK SOME TIME BUT YOU'RE HEALING NICELY.

THAT PUNK GOT LUCKY. NEXT TIME I'M TAKING A BIGGER BITE.*

*SUPERMAN #20'S MOST GRUESOME MOMENT! --PK

BUT THAT MONSTER'S POWER WAS ***TASTY.***

I HAVEN'T FELT THIS FULL... ***EVER.***

THAT'S WHAT WORRIES ME. AFTER DOOMSDAY... CAN YOU EVER MATCH THAT POWER SOURCE AGAIN? WILL EVERYTHING ELSE FEEL LIKE TABLE SCRAPS?

EXCUSE ME, RUDY.

MERCY AND I NEED TO TALK.

SUPERMAN! GOOD TO SEE YOU, BUDDY.

I'D OFFER YOU A HIGH FIVE, BUT Y'KNOW...

DOES THIS HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE ***APOKOLIPTIAN FIRE PITS*** ERUPTING AROUND EARTH?

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

SUPERCORP... I MEAN ***LEXCORP*** SCIENTISTS HAVE PICKED UP FLUCTUATIONS AT THE EARTH'S CORE. SOMETHING BIG IS DOWN THERE. SOMETHING ***POWERFUL.***

FOLLOW ME.

YOU MIGHT HAVE CUT LEXCORP OFF FROM ALL JLU COMMUNICATIONS, BUT WE HAVE OUR WAYS. WE KNOW THE JUSTICE LEAGUE HAS BEEN ***ACTIVE.*** WORKING WITH THE TITANS... PREPARING SOME SORT OF MASS EVACUATION.

SO WE GOT TO WORK OURSELVES.

WE CALL IT *THE* **SUPERSHIP.**

SUPERCORP WAS DEVELOPING IT BEFORE YOU LEFT US. THE IDEA WAS TO TAKE OUR SCIENTISTS TO THE STARS.

I'VE BEEN STUDYING ***BRAINIAC'S*** BOTTLE TECHNOLOGY AND HOW HE MAKES THE MOST OF... THE ***CONSTRAINTS*** OF PHYSICAL SPACE.

WE CAN PUT A ***WHOLE CITY*** INSIDE ONE SUPERSHIP. MAYBE A WHOLE ***COUNTRY.***

GOOD.

WE NEED A DOZEN OF THEM.

I KNOW A FEW PEOPLE WHO CAN HELP YOU BUILD THEM ***FAST.***

TWELVE?

SUPERMAN, WHAT IS GOING ON?

YOU'RE DOING WHAT?!

3822 WEST MAIN STREET, METROPOLIS.

IT'S THE ONLY WAY, HONEY.

I KNOW HOW CRAZY THIS ALL SOUNDS, ***LOIS.*** A FIGHT TOURNAMENT TO SAVE THE WORLD IS...NUTS.

AND I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M GOING TO SAY THIS...

...BUT AFTER WHAT THE TIME TRAPPER SHOWED US ABOUT THE FUTURE... I ***BELIEVE*** HIM.

YOU MEAN ***OLD MAN DOOMSDAY?!*** THE GUY WHO ***KILLED YOU,*** CLARK?

THIS IS WHAT HE WANTED ALL ALONG. FOR YOU TO GO ALONG WITH SOME INSANE PLAN HE HAD.

JOHN HENRY AND STEELWORKS ARE WORKING WITH MERCY TO PUT TOGETHER EVACUATION SHUTTLES.

JON IS ALREADY WITH THE TITANS TO HELP COORDINATE THE MAJOR POPULATION CENTERS.

AND THE JUSTICE LEAGUE IS TRAINING.

YOU'RE PLANNING TO LOSE.

WE ***COULD.*** AND IF I ***DO*** I NEED TO MAKE SURE YOU ARE SAFE.

JUST ME? IT CAN'T BE ***JUST*** ME.

IF YOU'RE DOING THIS, YOU CAN'T GIVE ME SPECIAL PRIVILEGE, ***CLARK.*** YOU HAVE TO GET ***EVERYONE.***

I KNOW, ***LOIS.***

UM, DID WE COME AT A BAD TIME?

OR DID YOU FORGET WE WERE VISITING THIS WEEK?

YOU NEVER SHOWED UP IN SMALLVILLE, SO MA AND I DID IT THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY AND PACKED UP THE TRUCK.

MOM... DAD...

LAST I SAW YOU, YOU WERE GOING TO VISIT YOUR FRIENDS IN THE FUTURE, CLARKIE. HOW'D THAT GO?

WERE YOU WORRIED OVER NOTHING?

IT... IT DIDN'T GO AS I HAD HOPED.

I REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE EIGHT YEARS OLD...YOU TRIED TO DRIVE MY ***TRACTOR*** AND CRASHED INTO THE ***BARN.*** YOU MADE THE SAME FACE.

WHAT'S GOING ON, CLARK?

SIT DOWN AND I'LL EXPLAIN.

YOU'RE ALL GOING ON A LITTLE TRIP. WITH LOIS AND OUR FRIENDS.

BUT FIRST...

"...I WANT US TO SPEND SOME TIME TOGETHER. AS A FAMILY."

I'M BRINGING MY "DAWNSDAY" KNUCKLES.

DON'T MAKE JOKES.

I'M WORRIED, CLARK. THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT TIME TRAPPER WARNED US ABOUT.

MERCY IS TAKING CARE OF THE DOOMSDAY AND RADIANT BOTTLED CITY. TAKING IT WITH HER. MAYBE SHE CAN USE THEM TO INVESTIGATE DOOMSDAY'S PAST.

I STILL DON'T TRUST MERCY.

I'LL KEEP AN EYE ON HER, BUT I JUST WISH THERE WAS ANOTHER WAY. SOMETHING THAT DIDN'T INVOLVE TIME TRAPPER...OR ***DOOMSDAY.***

I SAW JOR-EL. AT THE FORTRESS. I ASKED HIM IF THEY HAD ANY KNOWLEDGE OF DARKSEID OR THIS ***KING OMEGA*** IN KRYPTON'S ARCHIVES.

HE SAID THEY HAD NO RECORD OF IT BECAUSE KNOWLEDGE FROM OUTSIDE THE PLANET KRYPTON WAS ILLEGAL.

OF COURSE HE SAID THAT...

I CAN ***DO THIS.*** THIS ***TOURNAMENT.*** BUT NOT IF MY MIND IS PREOCCUPIED WITH EVERYONE HERE. I NEED TO KNOW YOU'RE ALL SAFE.

THEY ***WILL*** BE, CLARK. KEEP YOUR EARS OPEN SO YOU CAN HEAR US CHEER YOU ON.

IT'S TIME, LOIS. TAKEOFF IN LESS THAN SIXTY.

OKAY...

I KNOW YOU CAN STILL HEAR THIS...

"PLEASE COME BACK TO ME."

SUPERSHIPS EXITING THE ATMOSPHERE.

POWER IS HOLDING.

THE PASSENGERS ARE SECURE.

THE TITANS DID GREAT WORK.

"NOT EASY TO EVACUATE WHOLE CITIES.

ALL SHIPS ARE ACCOUNTED FOR. EXCEPT *ONE.*

LOIS... WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?

I'M HERE. JUST TAKING A SMALL DETOUR.

LOIS, WE ARE SCHEDULED TO RENDEZVOUS AT THE MOON WITH THE *TITANS.*

I KNOW. AND I'LL BE THERE.

...BUT SOMETHING SUPERMAN SAID HAS BEEN BUGGING ME...

"...AND I SMELL A STORY."

HOW CAN I HELP YOU, BRIDE OF KAL-EL?

CALL ME LOIS.

HERE'S THE THING, JOR-EL. YOU DON'T KNOW THIS, BUT YOU AND I SPENT SOME TIME TOGETHER IN SPACE. WE HAD A LITTLE ADVENTURE. YOU, ME, AND JON. AND YOU KNOW WHAT I LEARNED ON THAT TRIP?

YOU CAN'T BE TRUSTED. YOU OR SOME CRAPPY SIMULATION VERSION OF YOU.

I'M NOT HERE TO ASK YOU FOR ***HELP.***

I'M HERE TO ***INTERVIEW YOU.***

TELL ME ABOUT DARKSEID AND THE HEART OF APOKOLIPS.

THERE IS NO KNOWLEDGE OF DARKSEID OR THE HEART OF--

YEAH, YEAH. I KNOW. IN YOUR ARCHIVES.

BUT WHEN YOU'RE A REPORTER, YOU LEARN THAT FINDING OUT WHAT IS MISSING CAN HELP LEAD YOU IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

CERTAIN BITS OF INFORMATION WERE ILLEGAL ON KRYPTON. I GET IT. BUT WHERE ARE THE RECORDS ON WHAT WAS ILLEGAL? YOU HAD TO KNOW ***WHAT*** WAS ILLEGAL TO ***FORBID IT,*** RIGHT?

THERE IS NO...

YOUR SON, RIGHT NOW... IS IN THE FIGHT OF HIS LIFE. FRANKLY, DOING WHAT ***YOU COULDN'T.***

SAVING HIS WORLD.

YOU MUST KNOW ***SOMETHING.*** ANYTHING ABOUT THE HEART OF APOKOLIPS. YOU ***MUST*** HELP HIM.

THERE IS NO KNOWLEDGE...

THERE IS NO KNOWLEDGE...IN OUR RECORDS.

THERE IS NO KNOWLEDGE...IN ***MY*** RECORDS...

THERE IS NO KNOWLEDGE...

...NO KNOWLEDGE...NO... KNOWLEDGE.

DAMMIT, I BROKE IT...

YOU LOVE MY SON.

WHEN WE SENT KAL-EL AWAY, I HOPED HE WOULD FIND HAPPINESS. SAFETY.

I HOPED HE WOULD FIND ***YOU.***

LARA?

I...I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY. WE HAVEN'T REALLY TALKED BEFORE...

AND YET, YOUR QUESTIONS TRIGGERED MY PROGRAM. MY OWN... ***MEMORIES*** TUCKED AWAY WITHIN THE FORTRESS.

MY ROLE ON KRYPTON WAS AS A HISTORIAN. I WORKED ON CRAFTING THE ARCHIVES THAT WERE INCLUDED IN MY SON'S SHUTTLE.

AND WHILE THERE ARE NO RECORDS OF A ***DARKSEID...***

...ALL THE WORLDS KRYPTON ENCOUNTERED HAD A LEGEND ABOUT A DESTROYER. THE END OF ALL THINGS. A DARK ***OMEGA*** PRESENCE THAT WANTED TO CONTROL ALL.

THE FINAL GOD.

OUR SCIENTISTS HOPED TO CREATE A ***CHAMPION*** TO STOP HIM. TO CHANGE THE FUTURE.

BUT FOR THERE TO BE AN ***OMEGA...***

...THERE MUST BE AN *ALPHA.*

I BELIEVE DOOMSDAY WAS CREATED TO BE THAT. HIS POWERS OF RE-CREATION AND REBIRTH ARE IN DIRECT OPPOSITION TO EVERY-THING THE KING OMEGA IS...

DOOMSDAY IS THE ALPHA...

CLARK NEEDS TO KNOW, BUT...HE NEEDS TO TALK TO *YOU.*

HOW THE HELL AM I GETTING YOU TO HIM?

CRASH

BOOM

CLARK?!

CLARK?!

WRONG... CLARK...

PRIME?

SUPERMAN SAID YOU WERE STUCK IN THE FUTURE.

I *WAS.* I MANAGED TO HOLD DARKSEID'S ARMY OFF, BUT THEY WERE TOO MANY.

I KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE REST OF THE LEGIONS. *ALL* THE LEGIONS.

I GOTTA TELL SUPERMAN *NOW.*

YOU DON'T KNOW? I NEED TO TALK TO HIM, TOO--

--BUT HE'S GONE AND I HAVE NO WAY TO--

EWWOOSH!

NICE TRY, SUPER***BOY.***

WE KNOW SUPERMAN AND THE JUSTICE LEAGUE ARE TRYING TO CAPTURE THE HEART OF APOKOLIPS.

DARKSEID IS COMING.

WE'VE ALREADY ***WON.***

THEY LEFT YOU TO ***DIE.***

I'LL... I'LL STOP YOU, ***SUN BOY.***

HOW? YOU'RE ALONE. NO ONE CAN SAVE YOU.

THERE WAS SOMETHING YOU FORGOT ABOUT...

WHAT'S THAT?

THE LAST-PAGE REVEAL.

WHAT ARE YOU SMILING ABOUT...?

WHAT. THE. HELL?

YOU BLASTED HER WITH YOUR *SUN* POWERS, YA DORK.

SUPERWOMAN IS BACK.

NEXT ISSUE:
SUPERWOMAN AND SUPERBOY-PRIME TEAM UP AS DC K.O. CONTINUES!

FOUR LEGENDARY STORIES. TWO COLORS.
ONE TIMELESS HERO.

SUPERMAN RED and BLUE

2025 SPECIAL

A 40-PAGE ONE-SHOT ON SALE IN OCTOBER

WRITTEN BY
PAUL DINI, DAN ABNETT, MICHAEL WALSH,
AND RAINBOW ROWELL

ART BY
MIRKA ANDOLFO, CAITLIN YARSKY,
MICHAEL WALSH, AND CIAN TORMEY

COVER ART BY CHRIS SAMNEE

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DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON ALL IN

HARLEY & IVY
LIFE & CRIMES

INTERVIEW WITH ERICA HENDERSON

Get ready for comics' most chaotic love story! Eisner Award-winning writer and artist Erica Henderson takes us behind the scenes of *Harley & Ivy: Life and Crimes*, a bold new series that dives deep into the twisted, tender, unforgettable, and previously untold origin of Harley Quinn and Poison Ivy's romance. From first fights to first kisses, Henderson brings heart, humor, and havoc to Harley and Ivy's journey like never before!

What drew you to telling the origin story of one of the most iconic relationships in comics?

It's partly that it's this glaring omission. Paul Dini and Bruce Timm were implying a Harley and Ivy romance since the mid-'90s. They were also the ones to put *Mad Love* to paper. The blueprints for a Joker/Harley breakup and a Harley/Ivy team-up have been there for so long and yet nobody wrote it down! That's nuts.

The other part is that they're really nothing like each other, and that's interesting. At first glance, they don't make sense as a couple. They have completely different wants and desires. They have almost opposite personalities. Thinking about what makes them click was like a fun puzzle.

What's exciting for you about both writing and drawing this series?

I get to do everything (almost)! That's exciting by itself!

But besides that, I've been wanting to write more and have been very grateful to have the opportunity, especially with thoughtful editors to hold my hand through a new process.

How did you approach balancing the humor and heart in their relationship?

Humor is easy with Harley. It's inherent to the character. Ivy is trickier. She's often single-minded and hyper focused, not very funny traits. HOWEVER—I don't want this to be something where one character is the life of the party and the other is a buzzkill. The fact that Ivy likes Harley means that she wants to have fun. Maybe she just needs some help.

The heart came pretty naturally. When you're sitting there thinking about how a relationship started, you're really asking why it started. Why are these two people compelled to spend time with each other? Heart is pretty front and center in how we talk about what's going on issue to issue.

Can fans expect any other familiar villains (or heroes) to pop up along the way?

YES! A character who has been on my bucket list for over a decade is DC's first female superhero—THE RED TORNADO. MA HUNKEL.

Also, I've got some plans for Catwoman. Who doesn't love a good heist?

Was there a moment in Harley and Ivy's journey you couldn't wait to explore?

YES AND I'M NOT GIVING OUT SPOILERS. On an unrelated note—did you know that there isn't an official depiction of the Harley/Joker breakup in the comics? Wild. Wild stuff.

DON'T MISS HARLEY & IVY: LIFE AND CRIMES, ON SALE MONTHLY!

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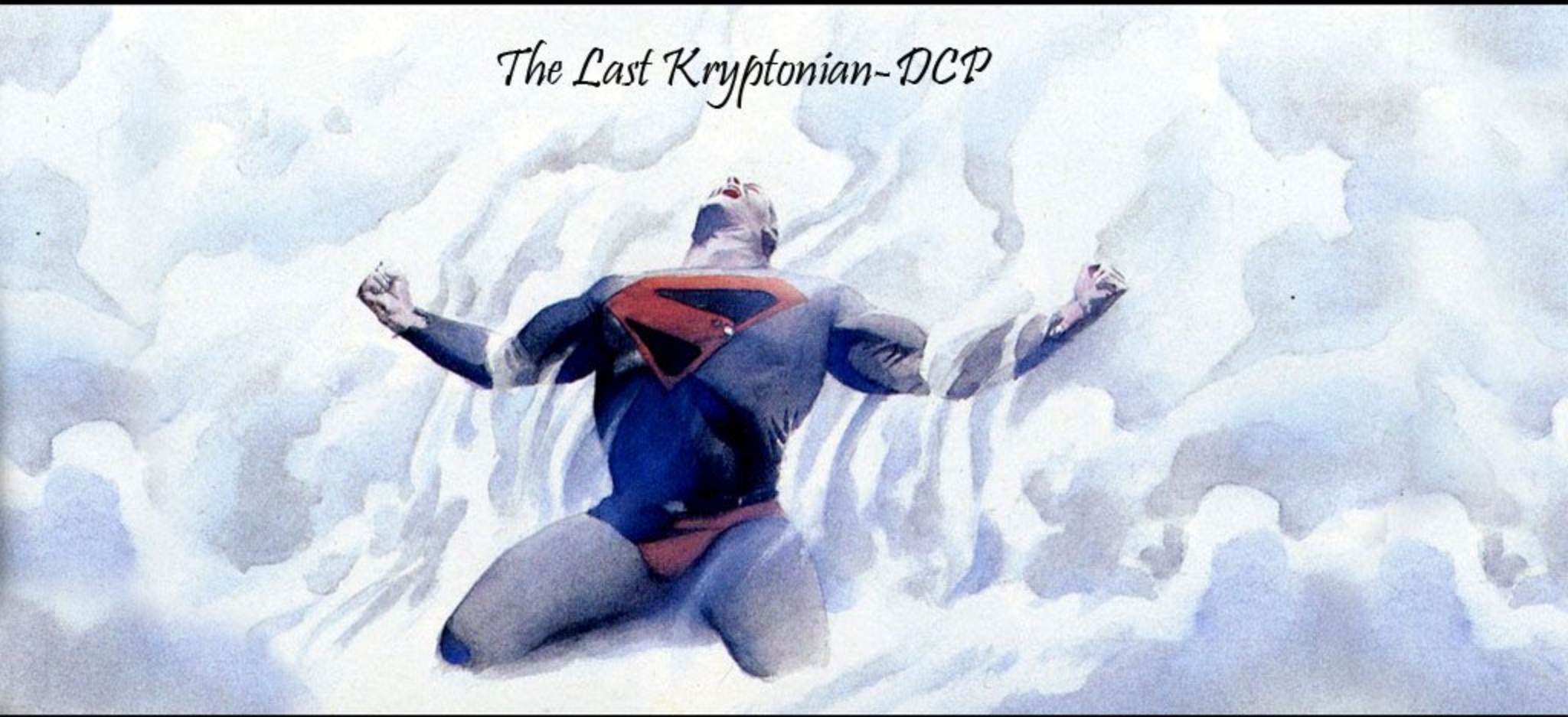
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